

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 2356.0010-04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Marc ALIZON et al.

Application No.: Unassigned  
(Cont. of U.S.S.N. 08/423,477 (4/19/95))

Filed: January 23, 2001

For: VARIANT OF LAV VIRUSES

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)  
) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
)  
) Examiner: Unknown  
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)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claim 1 and add the following new claims.

--23. A purified HIV-1 virus,

wherein said virus encodes a Gag protein comprising an amino acid sequence that comprises at least 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that is not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

24. The HIV-1 virus of claim 23, wherein said amino acid sequence comprises 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that is not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

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